Docket No. 0229-0785P

Appl. No. 10/725,459

Reply to Examiner's Office Communication dated August 17, 2005

Reply to Office Communication of July 29, 2005

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REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14 and 15 are pending in the present application. The specification

has been amended. This Reply is supplemental to the Reply filed on May 10, 2005.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Foreign Priority

The Examiner indicates that the Reply filed on May 10, 2005 is not fully responsive

to the prior Office Action because the priority documents have not been submitted. As the

Examiner will note, the priority documents have been filed concurrently herewith. In view of

this, it is believed that the reply dated May 10, 2005 is now fully responsive.

As the Examiner will note, the priority documents submitted concurrently herewith

are Japanese Application Numbers 2002-352854 and 2003-127337, which were filed in

Japan on December 4, 2002 and May 2, 2003, respectively. When the present application

was filed, a typographical error occurred in the Declaration which indicated incorrect

Application No. 2003-321416. The first page of the present specification has been

amended to correct this error. In addition, a Supplemental Application Data Sheet has

been provided in order to correct the typographical error in the claim for foreign priority.

Acknowledgement of Applicant's claim for foreign priority and receipt of the priority

documents are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is believed that the reply dated May 10, 2005 is now fully

responsive to the Examiner's Office Action dated December 10, 2004.

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CONCLUSION

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered

moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently

pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action,

and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is

invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the

Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future

replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any

additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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Attachment(s)

PCL/cl 0229-0785P